

COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL - CITY OF LODI
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1945

Pursuant to the adjournment taken from the regular meeting of November 21, 1945, the City Council of the City of Lodi met at 7:30 o'clock P.M. of Wednesday, November 28, 1945, Councilmen Coffield, Tolliver, Weihe and Mayor Rinn present at roll call, Councilman Riggs appeared at 8:30 P.M. and took his seat in the Council.

City Attorney Glenn West, Deputy District Attorney Robert Blewett, Fred Spiekerman, President of the Board of Trustees of Lodi School District, W. J. Coffield and Reuben P. Rott, members of that Board, together with Leroy Nichols, superintendent of Schools sat at the Council table at the invitation of the Mayor. Representatives from various civic organizations were in the audience.

Mayor Rinn, in opening the meeting, stated that as the City Council had received many letters and resolutions regarding the impending sale of the Old Salem School Grounds by the School District, that the Council had requested that the Board of Trustees, their Attorney and interested persons meet at this time for discussion of ways and means whereby this lot could be kept in public ownership as the opinions expressed in these communications, by the public at large and by the newspapers all favored such retention.

Acquisition by the City of this lot for play-ground and recreational purposes was advocated by:

Mrs Ruth Declusin of Business & Professional Women's Club.
Mrs C. H. Blewett of Parent Teachers Association
Mrs Mabel Barron of Childs Service (Childrens Day Care Center)
Rev. F. W. Gross
Mr Roswell P. Barbour.

Mayor Rinn read copies of the resolutions and letters received by the City Council at its November 21st meeting.

Messrs Rott and Spiekerman stated the position of the Board of Trustees of the School District as that of a public body owning property not suited for school purposes and as seeing that this time of high real property prices presented an opportunity for the District to convert unneeded land to needed money.

Arguments were presented that the City as a possible purchaser would have to compete with private persons under the law and that it would simply be transferring money from the City Treasury to the School District. Also, that as 4/11ths of the School District was without the City limits, it would seem more logical that the District retain this property for recreational purposes open to the whole district.

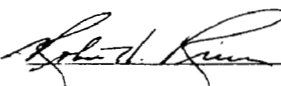
Mr West read extracts from the "Community Recreation Enabling Act" of 1939 setting forth the powers of Boards of School Trustees in acquiring and operating recreational facilities. It was pointed out that the existing agreements under which the present Recreation Commission operates is evidence that the School District and the City, one as owner, the other as operator could handle these grounds by cooperative agreement without the City being forced to buy and own them.

The meeting adjourned on motion of Councilman Weihe after Mr Blewett stated that he would endeavor to secure the opinion of the Attorney General on the propriety of the District holding unused lands, not suitable for school buildings for recreational uses.

Attest:


J. F. BLAKELY, City Clerk.

The foregoing minutes read before the
City Council on December 5, 1945 and
approved as written


Dec. 5, 1945.

Mayor.